

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested for Claims 1-12 and 15 in view of the foregoing Amendment and the following remarks.

At the outset, we would like to express our appreciation to Examiner Rodgers for the courtesies extended during the interview of March 25, 2003. At the interview, the claims and rejections were discussed. No agreement was reached.

Responsive to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, by way of the foregoing amendments, the rejections are obviated. Regarding Claim 4, the limitation "the end" finds sufficient antecedent basis in Claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by DE '572. Claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Larabet et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Further to the arguments presented in the previous Amendment, the claims are additionally patentably distinguishable for the following reasons. DE '527 does not disclose or suggest, among other features, that the handle pull can pivot longitudinally around a swivelling axis. DE '572 shows a handle pull connected to levers which are, in turn, connected to a mounting arrangement which pivots about two connections. The handle pull is arranged completely outside of the vehicle and does not pivot longitudinally. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the claimed invention is not anticipated by DE '572, as noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Larabet et al. does not disclose or suggest, among other features, that the mounting is designed such that the swivelling axis is tilted relative to the vertical axis of the mounting. Larabet et al. shows a swivelling axis which is not tilted about the vertical axis of the mounting. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 15 has been added. Independent claim 15 finds support from original claims 1 and 7 and Figures 1-3. It is respectfully submitted that claim 15 is patentably distinguishable over the cited references for at least the reason given for claim 1 in addition to the limitations contained therein.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application is respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance, and prompt favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a Request for Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #225/50556).

Respectfully submitted,

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